

THROUGH A SPECTRUM.

Not since Col. Ingersoll lectured at the Lansing has the Lincoln public been permitted to listen to so vigorous, so complacent, and withal so harmless a damning of spiritual motive and the doctrine of the hereafter as has been presented to Courier readers in recent issues over the signature of H. E. Newbranch.

Very few people nowadays, except university students taking the first semester's work in the department of philosophy, have had sufficient experience or mental training to think out the correct conclusions in these matters of metaphysics, or the temerity to go into print, that we may all understand even as they do. The ease and precision with which some undergraduates can dash off a criticism of Browning, horseflesh, economics, religion,—anything at all; and their willingness to settle any disputed question and to tell all about it, gratis, whether they know or not,—these qualities have been so persistently obtrusive in isolated cases that the result has been to discredit college students as a class. In these isolated cases the willingness to tell is always inversely as the ability.

It is not because of a fear that with Col. Ingersoll on the platform and Mr. Newbranch on the press the spiritual foundations of Lincoln society are in danger of being shaken that I make these comments. But the very authoritative and conclusive manner in which he makes his statements indicates a possible reliance upon some head older, though perhaps smaller, than his own. And because he has set forth his dissertation in the phraseology of the psychology class room of the university, and because the general tone of his articles strongly indicates that one of those isolated cases is loose in our midst, it might be taken for granted that Mr. Newbranch is stating the doctrine just as he gets it at school,—that he is simply telling what he has been taught. I wish to file this protest against any such impression getting abroad and against the isolated case being allowed to brand the student body.

It seems that Mr. Newbranch cannot conscientiously lend his support to the Christian religion because it does not put an immediate stop to the Armenian outrages; because it does not stamp soulless corporations out of existence; because it does not take away from men's hearts all evil thoughts, and all evil deeds from their lives. In other words, the Christian religion is here and is said to be a good thing; these other things are here also and we all know them to be bad things, the two are inconsistent, and therefore, says Mr. Newbranch, the Christian religion must go! I wish this master logician might have been one of the "twenty million worshippers at the shrine of the Prince of Peace" he speaks of so eloquently, which, being interpreted, I wish he might have gone to church a Sunday or two ago and heard a sermon from a local pulpit on the slowness of Providence. The text was something about one day being as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day. On the latter basis and upon the very bold hypothesis that Mr. Newbranch is twenty years of age and that he has thought about these things seriously for three years, his individual existence, mind and all, would be good for about three minutes in the Divine scheme. The preacher showed how God moved deliberately in physical, intellectual and spiritual development. What has become of Mr. Newbranch's evolution? He talks evolution strong in his

prose-pastel on the child-organism, tracing its development through youth and manhood to decay and death. But he doesn't mix any evolution with his ideas on religion, not he, because it won't mix with what he has found, confidentially, to be the real truth of the whole matter. Here is his position: The first cause has spent millions of years in getting this earth and its inhabitants into the present stage of evolution; organic matter has evolved from the simple to the complex, man from the savage state into an intellectual civilization; we have not yet reached what we know to be a higher and more perfect development; but here in this generation in which we live the first cause withdraws itself, stops; evolution stops, we are the highest and the best; evolution has completed its work, it must be so; why? simply because this generation has the honor of co-existence with H. E. Newbranch, who declines to admit the utility of further development or to conceive of any divine purpose beyond the twentieth century! Where is the evolution there? Where is the logic? What is that, anyway? Is it profound conceit or a diseased imagination or what? Certainly it is not taught at the University of Nebraska. The trouble is, probably, that Mr. Newbranch first got his theory of evolution all right,—which same theory many contemporary headlights of Mr. Newbranch seem to have also. And so he wrote of the development of the child-organism. Then, after taking the rudiments of psychology, he hit upon the real truth in this little matter of the Christian religion. He concluded the Christian religion would hardly fill the bill and so he tacked on the peroration about the house of blocks.

The last division of the symphony was a very life-like sketch of a rough, dissipated father with his innocent little boy. Mr. Newbranch sees, in the boy's personal appearance, the loving mother in the background. He tells how very tender the father is with the boy as they sit awaiting their turn. There seems to me to be a great deal in this little description that does not fit into the house of blocks. When Mr. Newbranch falls upon that house with his smashing-iron I wonder where he will reach in to get at the "continuity of the states of consciousness" that went to make up the father's tenderness and the mental picture of the loving mother in the background? T. E. WING.

Notice of foreclosure of chattel mortgage by sale of mortgaged property. Whereas, on the 16th day of December, 1895, H. R. Nissley & Co., executed and delivered to Amos R. Nissley a certain chattel mortgage and which mortgage was on the 16th day of December, 1895, duly filed of record in the county clerk's office of Lancaster county, Nebraska, and which mortgage was given to secure the payment of a promissory note executed at Lincoln, Nebraska, on the 16th day of December, 1895, for the sum of \$12,510.00, due on demand with interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum, from date thereof and which note was signed by H. R. Nissley & Co., and payable to the order of Amos R. Nissley who being still the owner and holder of said note and demand having been made and payment refused and default having been made in the payment thereof, as well as in the conditions and covenants in said mortgage and there now being due and owing on said note from said H. R. Nissley & Co., to said Amos R. Nissley the sum of \$12,510.00, together with interest thereon at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from the 16th day of December, 1895, and by said chattel mortgage the said H. R. Nissley & Co., conveyed to the said Amos R. Nissley all the stock of dress goods, dry goods, linens, domestics, flannels, blankets, underwear, yarns, cloaks and all cotton and wollen piece goods, and all goods,

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American National bank sold, indorsed and delivered said notes and assigned said mortgage to the said Amos R. Nissley, who is now the owner and holder of each one of said notes as well as said mortgage and each one of said notes being due and having demanded payment of each one of said notes, the same being refused by the said H. R. Nissley & Company, and default having been made in the payment thereof and the conditions therein having been broken and there now being due and owing on said notes to said Amos R. Nissley from said H. R. Nissley & Company the sum of \$6,075, together with interest thereon at the rate of ten per cent per annum, from the maturity of each one of said notes, and by said chattel mortgage the said H. R. Nissley & Company thereby conveyed to the said American Exchange National bank all of the stock of dry goods, merchandise and personal property above described and all the goods they were the owners of, situated in the basement and store rooms above named, together with all their books and books of accounts and all property contained in said store rooms. And there having been no suit or proceedings instituted at law to recover the debt remaining secured by said mortgages or either one of them or any part thereof. And the said Amos R. Nissley being now the owner and holder of said mortgages and each and every one of said notes named in each of them, he will offer all of said personal property above described and in said mortgages contained, for sale, for cash, at public sale at the hour of ten o'clock a. m. at the store rooms aforesaid on the 13th day of January, 1896.
AMOS R. NISSLEY,
By Burr & Burr, His Attorneys.